



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

OFFICER CANDIDATES SCHOOL
TRAINING COMMAND
2189 ELROD AVENUE
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134-5001

IN REPLY REFER TO

5060

C475-5

09 Oct 05

From: Commanding Officer, Officer Candidates School
To: The Families and Friends of Company C, OCC-190

Subj: FAMILY ORIENTATION AND GRADUATION PARADE

Encl: (1) Temporary Lodging List
(2) Marine Corps Base Quantico Map

1. The following information is provided to assist all family members and friends planning to attend the Officer Candidates School Family Orientation, Graduation and Awards Parade, and Commissioning Ceremony.

a. Family Orientation will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2005 at Yeckel Hall (located here at Brown's Field).

b. The Graduation and Awards Parade will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, December 16, 2005 at Brown's Field, Officer Candidates School.

c. The Commissioning Ceremony for OCC candidates will be held at the F.B.I. Academy at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, December 16, 2005.

2. Family Orientation

a. During Family Orientation, families and friends will be shown a short film about Marine Corps officer training programs. The Commanding Officer, Officer Candidates School, will provide guests with a brief overview of officer candidate training and offer the audience an opportunity to ask questions about the Marine Corps and Officer Candidates School.

b. Parking directly in front of Yeckel Hall is limited therefore guests are encouraged to arrive early. Additional parking on Brown's Field is sufficient within short walking distance. Officer Candidates School personnel will provide parking guides.

c. Upon conclusion of Family Orientation bus transportation will be provided to candidates and their families to The Clubs of Quantico for dinner and an opportunity to meet with the

company/platoon staff members. It will not be required that families take the bus transportation provided, but is provided as an alternative to alleviate the parking shortage around the facility. Attire for candidates and their guests is casual. Following Family Orientation, candidates will be authorized off-base liberty, limited to the local area, until 8 p.m. that evening.

d. A buffet meal is offered at The Clubs of Quantico at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday December 15th. At this time the training company staff will be available to meet with candidates and their guests. Tickets will be sold and information will be provided to the candidates via their company chain of command. Families should be aware that if they purchase tickets for the buffet meal at the door, they might be required to wait for seating.

3. Graduation and Awards Parade

a. All vehicles entering Marine Corps Base Quantico are subject to search by Military Police and Military Police working dogs. Parking areas for relatives and guests will be available on the Officer Candidates School parade deck. Sentries will be posted to direct incoming traffic. If applicable, handicap or VIP license plate insignia should be displayed. Morning traffic on the roads leading to Officer Candidates School can be heavy at times; therefore, guests should take extra care to ensure they arrive between 8:15-8:40 a.m. **PLEASE ENSURE ALL CAR ALARM DEVICES ARE TURNED OFF.**

b. VIP (ambassador, congressman, SES-1, O-6, GS-15, etc.) guests will have reserved seating in the reviewing stand. Candidates must notify their platoon staff of VIPs who plan to attend the parade. **Ensure candidates provide the company staff with all VIP information as soon as possible.** All other guests will have general seating in the bleachers.

c. **Candidates must provide the names of those requiring special needs seating to the company staff as soon as possible.**

d. The uniform for candidates will be the Marine Corps pattern utilities. Attire for military guests will be the working uniform and casual dress for civilians.

4. Commissioning Ceremony

a. The Commissioning Ceremony will take place at the F.B.I Academy aboard Marine Corps Base Quantico. The event begins at 2:00 P.M. Parking will be available at the F.B.I. Academy, due to security issues we recommend that families arrive early. All

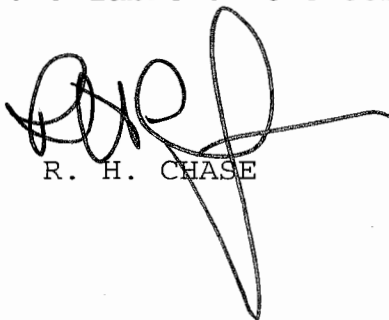
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persons will be checked from an access roster submitted from Officer Candidates School to the F.B.I. Academy. Bus transportation will be provided to candidates who do not have transportation available.

b. Upon conclusion of the Commissioning Ceremony, the auditorium stage will be available for families and friends to take photos and pin on their second lieutenant's rank insignia. The National Colors will be on stage to provide a background.

5. A map of Marine Corps Base Quantico and a list of nearby lodging establishments are enclosed. All lodging is adjacent to Interstate 95/US Route 1 and is within a fifteen mile radius of Quantico. Room rates vary among the different establishments. To receive additional lodging and travel information for the Washington, D.C. area, contact the Washington Convention and Visitors Association, 1212 New York Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005, phone (202) 789-7000.

6. This information is also available on the OCS web page. The address is www.ocs.usmc.mil.



R. H. CHASE